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ORIGINAL ARTICLES.

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

By G. H. PALMER M. D.

[Delivered at the Twelfth Annual Meeting of the California State Homœopathic Medical Society, May 9th, 1888.]

This is the twelfth annual meeting of the California State Homœopathic Medical Society, California's representatives of the Homœopathic Medical profession, being here assembled in the chief city of the Pacific Coast. We are here to compare notes, to discuss the occurrences of the year, and those various questions relating to and bearing upon the profession of medicine and surgery. It is well to halt occasionally and examine our surroundings—to pause awhile—to look out from and beyond ourselves—this meeting affords us such an opportunity. Throughout this great region known as the Pacific Coast, there has been a great awakening as to the destiny and possibilities of the country—thousands of home-seekers have annually poured in from less favored regions determined to cast their lot with us; and still the stream keeps on, and will keep on until every nook and corner of this wonderfully favored land shall be fully peopled and occupied; and that too by a class who appreciate the beauties of a climate unsurpassed, and a soil the varied productiveness of

which bewilders and astonishes the senses, being at once the garden spot not only of America, but of the world. Can we speculate upon the justice of a people who are influenced by such surroundings? Can we forecast the results of this happy influence in moulding character and life and society, with possibilities like these in process of development? What relation shall the profession of medicine sustain to so complex a social existence when this shall have been accomplished? Do we realize that we are individual factors in the process of evolution that is going on around us? What part are we taking in the building process? What foundation are we laying individually and collectively? Are we building for all time? Will the foundations we are now erecting be adequate to support so great a superstructure? Will they be lasting enough to defy the elements and storms sure to test their strength? These and kindred subjects press themselves upon our attention as physicians and surgeons. Let us realize the full importance of the work in hand, and if it is our lot to build only the foundation of the enduring and noble edifice sure to be erected to the shrine of Homœopathy in this State, let us do our work well, let us dig deep and broad and build wide, that no undoing shall be necessary in after years. Professionally we know we are in the front rank—Homœopathy never stood better nor enjoyed the confidence of the people more than it does to-day. Our college is no longer an experiment; it is well thought of and will be supported, and has the entire confidence and good will of the profession and every one interested in the profession. This result has been attained by hard and continuous work and expenditure of money and time; but the college is a fixed fact and here to stay. Our hospital is also here to stay, and this, too, in the face of adverse legislation. We have, that is, the Board of Trustees, of Hahnemann Medical College, of San Francisco, have fought the enemy in the courts, and though defeated in the lower courts and her officers imprisoned, have fought on and in the higher court finally established the rights they contended for—that of existence at the sight chosen, No. 312 Page street, the ordinance to the contrary notwithstanding.

The college has taken another step onward this year,

which, in its bearings upon the future of Homœopathy on the coast, cannot be overestimated. For more than a year past the college has maintained the hospital, it being associated or connected with the college, but not being a part of it. As matters progressed the trustees of the college found it advisable that the hospital be in closer connection with the college, and determined that it should be. This would necessitate again greater expenditure of money and work, but a wider influence and usefulness for both college and hospital. Legal advice being therefore sought it was advised that we re-incorporate so as to include college and hospital under one charter which was done, and under the name of Hahnemann Hospital College, of San Francisco. The two institutions were finally merged and with the wider usefulness outlined and anticipated, the capital stock was correspondingly increased from \$25,000 to \$100,000. Thus the college and hospital stands before you to-day firmly entrenched with an ever-widening field of usefulness before it.

This is not all that is in process here, though it were sufficient perhaps for any one year, but to show that the results are being appreciated, I wish also to state that Mr. Sutro has offered an acre of ground for hospital purposes, this awaits acceptance at the hands of the ladies in charge, if not indeed already accepted by them. This land is in a charming location where the climate is suitable for the purposes intended. Other parties have promised funds for hospital purposes, and it is expected that in the near future sufficient money will have been secured to erect such a structure as the location and necessities of the hospital shall seem to require.

Every Homœopathic physician in the State should do his part in sustaining this institution; should take special pains to send such patients as is advisable to the present hospital, for much medical and surgical relief may be secured there that is not attainable in home localities. This kindliness on the part of physicians will prove at once satisfactory to the physician and patient, and will go very far towards building up a hospital in this city that will be an honor and a credit to the whole profession. So much for progress in this new country and city. How about it in the older countries and cities? How is Homœopathy gaining in England? The new

school has won a signal victory there of late. A controversy has been going on between representatives of Homœopathy and the old school in no less a paper than the *London Times*, and the editorials referring thereto show that the old school have been badly worsted, and that Homœopathy has got a verdict in its favor in old conservative England that will go far towards securing there for the new system of practice a fuller and freer recognition to an extent and degree certainly not accorded to it previously. This shows progress in the old world.

To come back to matters at home, it occurs to me that physicians located in different sections should study carefully the climatology and adaptability of his locality in relation to conditions of health and disease. Records should be kept and statistics secured, and these should be published in our journals or given to the society for publication. Then physicians living in the vicinity of mineral springs could do a very valuable service by noting their efficacy in certain diseases. Climatic and other statistics should be diligently sought after and secured, for great as this State is as a sanitarium, singularly difficult is it to get data on which it is possible to base a satisfactory opinion in regard to adaptability in any given case of sickness. The medical men in the several sections of the State can do much to do away with this uncertainty. Other facts not thoroughly understood should be constantly kept before the people; at least that portion of it seeking health. How few of these, for instance, know that there is a large area of country that in the winter season is a perfect sanitarium for persons suffering from bronchial, pulmonary and asthmatic difficulties. I allude now to the Sierra Nevada foothill region of Northern and Central California, which equals and even rivals Southern California. Indeed, no country of the world can compare with this part of California; for healthfulness and beauty of winter climate it stands unrivaled to-day. Winter resorts that are in every sense semi-tropic, with a sunshine and an atmosphere beyond comparison, are here waiting for occupants, and this too true of a region lying hundreds of miles north of San Francisco.

It is the duty of physicians to establish these facts, and to

publish and to emphasize them at every opportunity, for the better guidance of those seeking life and health anew.

There are several matters that I believe should be brought to the notice of the Society, hoping that such consideration as may seem necessary may be given to them. The time given to the meetings of the Society is wholly inadequate to the business brought before it. The three sessions into which is usually crowded the work we transact, is not sufficient. I would suggest that the constitution be so amended that we shall remain in session three days. This will insure a much more deliberate and satisfactory meeting.

We attend these meetings to learn what is going on in the profession, for mutual instruction and acquaintance, for an interchange of personal thought and experience. The Society needs more time to allow of this, besides it would be well for the amendment to specify that the meetings will always continue three days, and begin at a certain fixed time as to day and hour. I also believe the several Bureaux should be limited to not more than three or at most four members for each committee, this will insure better and more thorough work on the part of the several Bureaux, and with the longer time devoted to our annual meetings, much more time will be at command for reading the committees' papers and for discussing the same. We should have ample time for the deliberate consideration of every subject brought before us, and we should establish a fixed time and method for every annual meeting, thus physicians before they leave home, will know the exact time the session begins and the time of adjournment, such an amendment must prove of great advantage to the Society.

ELECTRICITY IN MEDICINE.

By G. H. MARTIN, M. D., SAN FRANCISCO.

[Read before the California State Homœopathic Medical Society, 1888.]

It is my purpose in this paper to define in as few words as possible the field of electricity in medicine. Like all agents or new remedies when first brought to notice, it has been used for almost all kinds of cases; and when it has failed in

many, regardless of the fact whether it was indicated or not, it is at once set aside, and forever more the experimenter decries its use in disease, and cannot be induced to give the subject the careful investigation he ought before passing an opinion upon its usefulness. Within the last ten years, the subject has received the careful thought of many able men, and to-day, while we are yet unable to explain many of its phenomena, its field of action has been very clearly defined.

To become an electro-therapeutist one must first have a thorough knowledge of electro-physics and electro-physiology. Most of the bad results, or lack of any results, from the use of this agent in disease, have been due to the fact that this knowledge was not possessed by the operator. No one can get the best results from any remedy unless he understands the nature of that remedy and its effect upon the human system. So with this one, if well understood and accurately prescribed we have no agent more potent for good, and none more capable of serious results if improperly used. Unless the proper time and study can be given to enable one to understand the fundamental principles of its action, it should never be used; for it only requires the turning of a switch or the reversing of a current to cause a life of suffering to some poor unfortunate.

There are three forms of electricity manifest: First, magnetism, which has very little therapeutic influence, and therefore need only to be mentioned. Second, Static or Franklinic electricity; and third, dynamic electricity. It is with the third form, dynamic electricity, that we have principally to deal. This is again subdivided into two kinds—galvanic or voltaic electricity, the result of chemical action, and faradic or induced electricity, the result of current induction.

Now, as to the field of usefulness of this agent in medicine; it is to the neurologist that it is particularly valuable, both as a means of diagnosis, and as a remedy in abnormal conditions. As a diagnostic agent it is of great service, for by it we are often able to distinguish a paralysis, due to a central lesion, from one of peripheral origin. We speak of a paralysis as central, when the nerve-center, from which the nerves, supplying the paralysed muscles, take their

origin, is sound. In such cases, we find we have some contractions upon the application to the galvanic current; that there is but little wasting of the muscles, and that the irritability of the muscles to the faradic current, is not much diminished. A paralysis is of peripheral origin, when the paralysed muscles are cut off from their nerve centres, or communicate directly with centres, whose physiological activity is destroyed by disease. In such cases, we have degenerative reactions to the galvanic current, in the diseased nerves, there is rapid atrophy of muscles, and faradic contractility is soon lost. A muscle in its normal condition, will contract upon the closing, and opening of either pole; we therefore have four kinds of contractions: the cathodal, or negative closure contraction, the anodal, or positive closure contraction, the anodal opening contraction, and the cathodal opening contraction. If nerve and muscle are in a healthy condition, the contractions will take place in the order named; that is the C. C. C. will be stronger than the A. C. C., and the A. O. C. will be stronger than the C. O. C. If this formula is changed in any way, then we have what are called the reactions of degeneration, and we know at once there is trouble somewhere, and seek to find it. The faradic current causes contractions through the intramuscular nerves, and when these are diseased, contractility is lost; but the galvanic current acts principally upon the muscular fibres. This explains why it is, that in some cases of paralysis, the muscles will retain their power of contraction longer, to the galvanic current, than to the faradic; for in such cases the intramuscular nerves are affected from the beginning, and the muscular fibres are only affected later.

We have degenerative reactions in cases of traumatic paralysis, where the continuity of the nerve has been completely interrupted, in pressure paralysis, lead palsy; in some forms of infantile paralysis, in spinal paralysis, where the gray matter is much involved; in progressive muscular atrophy; and in some cases of neuritis. Many times the only means we have of determining whether a case be one of poliomyelitis anterior or progressive muscular atrophy, is the fact that faradic contractility is early lost in the former, but is retained in the latter, as long as there is left a muscular fibre

to be acted upon. In certain cases of hemiplegia, with an irritative lesion, and in the early stages of facial paralysis, due to cold, the readiness with which a muscle responds to electrical stimulation, is increased; and a galvanic current that would not be strong enough to cause contractions in health, will do so readily in disease.

In the last stages of bulbar paralysis, progressive muscular atrophy and myelitis, the readiness with which contractions take place rapidly decreases and is finally lost. It is an interesting fact that the resistance of the body to the electric current is very much decreased in Basedows disease; while the resistance of the body in health is from 2,500 to 3,000 ohms, in Basedows disease, it is from 800 to 1,100 ohms. We have in electricity a most powerful agent for the detection of malingerers; and even the most skillful of them cannot surmount this obstacle to the successful consummation of their plans. We come next to the use of electricity in therapeutics. It is in the various forms of paralysis to keep up muscular action and so promote the nutrition of the parts, until peradventure, the central or peripheral lesion is healed, that we find the grandest results. Upon the lesion itself, particularly if it be of central origin, it seems to have but little if any direct results. It has been claimed by some that the absorption of a clot may be hastened and the nutrition of a damaged brain be improved, by acting upon the cervical sympathetic nerve; but one should be very careful about giving too much credit to this agent in these cases. In degenerated nerve tissue if a current can once be made to pass along the nerve, it will usually be transmitted more easily the second time, and so on, by repeated applications, until finally the nerve current itself will be conducted properly. But to be able to do this there must be some nerve fibre intact, and the current passing along these will sometimes influence the adjacent diseased fibres, nourishing them and so causing recovery to take place.

In organic spinal cord lesions electricity, locally applied, usually seems to do more harm than good, and we should be very careful of its use in such cases. There are many cases, such as those of *hysteria*, *epilepsy*, *chorea*, *Basedows disease*, and the sequelæ of acute diseases, of which much has

been written concerning this agent and but little done. In these conditions it has been disappointing, and when good results have followed its use I believe it is due more to the mental effect upon the patient than to any real result of the current itself. And why should it not be so when an agent that is capable of rending the strongest oak like a straw, moving railway trains, lighting cities and transmitting messages thousands of miles is so controlled that it passes silently through our body, thrilling us from head to foot. No wonder its results upon a susceptible individual are for the time being marvelous; but they are not permanent and will soon pass away.

We now come to another field for the use of electricity, and that is in gynecology. In uterine displacements, subinvolution, myo-fibroma, amenorrhœa, dysmenorrhœa, and extra-uterine pregnancies, it has been used with excellent results. It is particularly in the latter condition that it is the most valuable. In extra-uterine pregnancies of three or four months, it is a sure and safe remedy; many lives have been saved by its use, which otherwise would have been lost. In surgery vast strides have been made with this agent, and the wonderful results of electrolysis, in causing the chemical decomposition of morbid growths, in various parts of the body, have been many, and yet, even here, we must not be too sanguine of success, for although in some cases the results have been marvelous, yet there have been many disappointments. The electro-cautery is a valuable addition to our armamentarium, and holds an important position.

In closing let me sum up briefly the field of electricity in medicine. As an aid in the diagnosis of obscure nervous disease; in paralysis, to keep up the action of the muscles; in some cases of spinal irritation; in uterine displacements; subinvolution, and extra uterine pregnancies; and in some morbid growths, which may be destroyed by electrolysis. At present this is its field, and when carefully used in these conditions, it will be found to be invaluable. This subject is a large and important one, and much can be written upon it, but I have taken it up thus briefly, to bring it before the mind of the general practitioner. Many consider it so difficult, and void of interest, that they do not investigate it. But it is of vital importance to many a poor sufferer, that we

understand it, and understand it thoroughly. And to-day, when such rapid strides are being made in the advancement of medical science, no general practitioner can afford to hazard his reputation, upon faulty diagnosis, or unskillful treatment of his cases. And to be well equipped in this great work of relieving human suffering, he must have a knowledge of the use of electricity, among the other numerous remedies, he is to call to his aid.

SELECTIONS.

SCHUSSLER'S FIFTEENTH EDITION.

Through the courtesy of Dr. Schussler we are the recipients of the Fifteenth German Edition of his *Abgekürzte Therapie*, bearing the date of March, 1888.

Although in general much like the previous editions, yet we find a few improvements and some additions which we here present for the benefit of our readers.

* * * * * "The nature of disease is the altered cell," says Virchow. Health is normal cell action. The constitution of the cells is determined by the composition of their immediate nutritive field; just as the growth of plants is influenced by the nature of the soil about their roots.

The agricultural chemist speaks of the "law of minimum," according to which a fertilizer must contain that special nutrient of the plant which happens to be found in the *least* quantity in the soil.

The agricultural chemist needs only three fertilizers—either combined nitrogen (ammoniak), phosphate of lime or potash—the remaining materials of plant nutrition are contained in sufficient quantities in the soil itself. The "law of the minimum" is also applicable to the biochemic remedies.

For example: Suppose that within the nutritive domain of the bones of a child suffering from rachitis, there has arisen in consequence of a disturbance of the motion of the phosphate of lime molecules, a want of this salt.

The quantity of phosphate of lime intended for the bones, which cannot reach its place of destination, will form a surplus in the blood if it is not excreted in the urine, since the kidneys have the task to care for the proper composition of the blood, and so to remove all foreign matter and all superfluous constituents. After the disturbance of the molecular motion in the affected nutritive field (Nahrboden) has become restored by means of minimal doses of the salt, the superfluous calcium phosphate can be brought into the normal circulation, and the curing of rachitis be accordingly accomplished.

Every normal cell possesses the capability to take on and to throw off matter. The capability, to throw off injurious matter is lessened or arrested if the cells in consequence of an irritation experience a deficit in any one of their salts.

The *status quo ante* is again restored as soon as the deficit is supplied by homogenous material from the immediate nutritive field (Nahrboden). If the supply does not follow spontaneously it is to be supposed that the required salt is present only in minimum quantity within the cellular nutritive field.

Therefore it is requisite that we act therapeutically according to the law of the minimum.

When by means of a fresh supply of the materials lost the changed cells regain their integrity, then they are again in condition to functionate normally and thereby to cause the chemical removal of diseased products. (Exudations, Transudations, etc.)

The biochemical method of healing furthers the restorative endeavors of nature which furnishes the natural remedy (the inorganic salts) where they are wanting.

Biochemistry reaches its aim *directly* by the supply of a deficiency. Other methods of cure which employ remedies foreign to the constituent materials of the human organism reach this object *indirectly*.

Whoever without prejudice tries to realise this aim and the ways and means by which it is reached will come to the conclusion that the biochemic remedies employed according to a proper choice will suffice for the cure of all diseases curable by means of internal medication.

Some physicians have put forth the assertion that the biochemic remedies must be proved upon the healthy, and thus by means of such provings obtain symptoms which are to be taken as indications for their use. That is thoroughly false. The indications for the biochemic remedies must be furnished by Physiological and Pathological Chemistry—that is, they must be determined through the results of their employment against disease.

Who will believe that diseased conditions having a similarity with puerpural fever, Typhus, Articular Rheumatism, Intermittent fever, Hygroma patellae, etc., can be produced by means of cell salts in large or small doses employed upon healthy persons.

The biochemic remedies are to be used in minimal doses; but as they are not selected according to the principle of Similarity, *Biochemistry is no Homœopathy*.

The general action of many of the remedies has been enlarged and improved somewhat in this edition thus under:

Natr. Mur.—The Natrum Mur. Molecules contained in the epithelial cells of the peptic glands become split up by the mild action of the carbonic acid of the blood, its chlorine is separated and the free soda unites with the carbonic acid, and this combination reaches the blood while the chlorine, united to the hydrogen and dissolved in water, reaches the stomach as hydrochloric acid. If, on account of a want of salt in the epithelial cells of the peptic glands, no HCl. can be formed there arises an increase of the exudated alkaline mucus from the superficial epithelium of the mucous membrane of the stomach. Diluted hydrochloric acid given in order to reduce the secretion of the superficial epithelial cells to the proper quantity, is but a palliative procedure; a rational cure must be effected by restoring the disturbed motion of the NaCl Molecules, which are found in the nourishing fluid of the epithelial cells of the peptic glands by means of administering Homogenous Molecules.

This is also the function remedy of mucin which is contained in the epithelial cells of all mucous membranes. It cures catarrh of such when its characteristic exudation is present, just as the hydrochloric acid formed in the epithelial

cells of the peptic glands reduces the increased alkaline mucous exudation of the superficial epithelium to the right quantity, so can the hydrochloric acid that is formed by splitting up of the chloride of sodium within the mucin of all mucous membranes limit the secretion of mucous in the formative (nascent) stage.

It is a fact that hydrochloric acid is obtained from salt, (Natr. Mur.) not only by means of carbonic acid acting upon the salt in a mass, but a similar result is obtained by the action of water. In the former the carbonic acid unites with the sodium which has lost its chlorine, and this combination reaches the blood; in the other case sodium hydroxyd results which dissolves the mucin and increases the secretion of mucus. This explains the origin of catarrh in damp atmospheres.

Natrum Mur. corresponds as a remedy to watery exudations which are often excoriating and irritating; head, face, teeth and other aches when flow of tears, saliva, or vomiting of watery fluids is present.

If the natr. mur. molecules of the epithelial cells of the serous membranes suffer a disturbance of equilibrium, we have a serous exudation.

Kali mur. — *Kali mur.* is found in the blood corpuscles, muscles, nerve and brain cells, as well as in the intercellular fluids. When in the walls of the blood or lymph vessels, the molecules of *kali mur.* become disturbed, and in consequence thereof, a minimum of this salt arises, there results a fibrinous exudation and white blood or lymph corpuscles. If the integrity of the affected tissue is again restored by the administration of *kali mur.* molecules, then a resorption or a throwing off of the exudation occurs. Either result is attained probably by the production of hydrochlor. acid, formed by the combination of one part of chlorine from the *kal. chlor.* with hydrogen. The action of this hydrochloric acid consists in dissolving the fibrin *in the formative (nascent) stage.*

Natr. phos. — This is found in the blood, muscles, nerve and brain cells, as well as in the intercellular fluids. It is useful in podagra, gout, as well as in acute and chronic articular rheumatism, being thus a remedy for the so called uric acid diathesis.

Kali sulph. — The sulphates found in nature and also the oxide of iron, serve as oxygen transporters. If a sulphate and Iron oxide come in contact at the same time with certain organic substances in decomposition, they give off their oxygen, and there is formed sulphate of iron. This becomes decomposed by the air, it forms sulphuric acid and Iron oxide, which, under certain conditions become again oxygen transporters.

Similar processes can be accomplished in the human organism; therefore, of the sulphates, probably the *kali sulph.* plays an important role, because this is found in *cells* and in intercellular fluids, while *calcium sulph.* and *natrum sulph.* are only found in the latter.

From a functional disturbance of the molecules of *kali sulph.*, such manifestations appear as intermitting pains, changing place frequently, becoming worse by quiet and warmth, and better in the cool open air, that is, rich in oxygen. Profuse epidermis scaling with yellow mucous exudation, etc.

Natr. Sulph—Does not appear in cells, only in the intercellular fluids: it aids and regulates the excretion of superfluous water, *e. g.*, that which arises from the decomposition of lactic acid with *natr. phos.*, oedemas, etc.

Further, on pages 20, 21, 22, 23 and 24, we find the following:

The inorganic tissue salts suffice for the healing of all curable diseases.

The question whether this or that disease depends upon the presence of Bacteriæ has absolutely no influence upon the Biochemical therapeutics. The therapeutic purpose is reached in a much shorter way by using these remedies according to the indications given.

Diseases which arise from the misuse of medicines, Quinine, Quicksilver, etc., can be healed by minimal doses of the cell salts. The symptoms determine the choice of the remedy.

While the above mentioned diseases are curable by means of the tissue salts, acute Arsenic, Phosphorus, etc., poisoning must of course be treated according to the well known rules.

By several physicians the assertion is made that the *Organic* combinations of the human organism should also be incorporated in the biochemic therapeutics. Such a view rests upon an error as I shall endeavor to prove.

The biochemic theory is, as has already been mentioned, an analogue of Agricultural Chemistry. — If a plant receives from nature a due amount of inorganic material, then it is in condition to develop in itself all the organic combinations which its organism requires. One does not manure plants with Chlorophyl in order to cause the leaves to take on a green color, since it is known that the iron contained in the plant takes care of the production of the green for the leaves. One does not manure with Lecithin, Nuclein, etc., in order to supply the plants with phosphatic combinations. We fertilize when necessary, with phosphate of lime. The plants take the phosphorus acid from the lime phosphate and unite it with other materials already present in them to constitute Lecithin Neuclein, etc.

If anyone put forward the assertion that the agricultural or horticultural chemists are in error since they believe that three fertilizers are sufficient, that they must use as fertilizers all the organic matters of the plants, *e.g.* Chlorophyl, gummi, resin oil, starch, grape sugar, acetic acid, etc., we would smile at such as wise Daniel.

If the human organism contain organic nutrient material, albumen fats and carbo-hydrates, together with the proper inorganic cell salts, in sufficient quantity and proper relation, there must be produced by the influence of oxygen and the consequent separations and syntheses all the necessary organic combinations and the individual will find himself in a condition of health.

Syntheses which were formerly considered as an exclusive property of the plants take place also in the animal and human organisms.

To those who believe that the *organic* substances also should be incorporated in my biochemic method of cure belongs Doctor Ring, of Ward's Island Hospital, New York.

He blames me because I have not accepted the *ultimate* organic combinations in my system. He says, among other things, "that the organic substances as Keratin Tyrosin,

Kreatin, Kreatinin, etc., are normal constituents of those tissues in and upon which cancerous growths form, and for this reason we are authorized to accept, so that by a proper preparation and choice of the same, a specific action upon the tissues related to can be exercised."

That is partly true, the greater part however is not true. True it is that kreatin is a normal constituent of certain tissues, but it is not true that kreatin and kreatinin are constituents of the tissues, *they are contained therein as products of retrograde cell metamorphosis.*

All organic combinations which, as kreatin, kreatinin, urea, uric acid, etc., become excreted from normal urine, are to be viewed as ultimate results of the oxydation of organic nutritive materials. They are to be compared in respect to their uselessness for the human organism to the resin which is thrown off from certain plants as a useless product.

The idea of curing a diseased tissue with one of its related healthy tissues is a peculiar one. Cartilage tissue is related to the mucous tissue. The functional remedy of both is *natr. mur.*

It is reasonable to suppose to cure a coryza — a diseased condition of the nasal mucous membrane calling for *natr. mur.*—with a preparation of cartilage.

Over thirty years ago, Dr. Constantine Hering conceived the idea to try hardened epithelium (horngewebe) as a remedy. He and his friends prepared some *castor equoreum*, the horn-like wart which is found on the legs of horses, and proved it on men and horses. In the symptom records of this proving we find the statement: "A broken down old horse became twenty years younger."*

In spite of this highly promising symptom, which stamps *castor equoreum* as an analogue to a woman's rejuvenating mill, the remedy has passed into oblivion.

Dr. Ring and associates prepare these organic substances in order to prove them upon healthy persons.

Their undertaking will have as a consequence, mere manufacturing of symptoms, and in all probability we will be treated to very strange ones.

* "An infirm old horse became rejuvenated." are Hering's words.—Eds.

If the Physiologico chemical views of the above gentlemen were a little clearer, they would be able to see, that their attempt is, at best, a useless trifling.

If they, for instance, employ Lecithin, then they are doing nothing else but employing a phosphate. If they use Keratin, which is very rich in Sulphur, they are doing nothing else but obtaining the action of a Sulphate. Why wander in the distance, when biochemistry already offers five phosphates and three sulphates.

When an inorganic salt becomes excreted in excess from the urine, there exists in consequence of a molecular disturbance a deficit of the said salt in the immediate nutritive field of the cell district, and a homogeneous salt is indicated as the remedy (vide Rachitis).

If the urine contains albumen, sugar, etc., then there exists in the nutritive field of the cell district, a minimum of a substance that is physiologically and chemically analogous to these substances, and a homœogeneous salt is indicated as a remedy. Any deficit in a nutritive field is occasioned by some tissue salt, *never by an organic substance*. Therefore organic substances are excluded as remedies.

Those who doubt this should make the attempt to cure some disease by means of molecules of Gluten, Mucin, Tyrosin, elastin, sugar, fat, etc. The result will be a negative one.

For the building and maintenance of the human organism the following substances are requisite: Oxygen, Fats, Albumen, Glutinous substances, Mucin, Keratin, Elastin, Hæmoglobin, Lecithin, Nuclein, Cholesterolin, water and inorganic salts. The Albumen forms the principal part of the plasma of the blood and the Lymph. It is in the muscular fibres, the axis-cylinders of the nerves and in the protoplasm of all cells. From glutinous substances originate the organic basis of bone, cartilages, ligaments and connective tissues.

Mucin is contained in the epithelial cells and mucous membranes; Kreatinin is the organic basis of the epidermis, hair and nails; Elastin of the elastic fibres.

The Gluten, Mucin, Keratin and Elastin are products of the disintegration of albumen, through the action of oxygen. The Hæmoglobin of the blood cells is the combination of an albuminous body with a body containing iron.—*Haematin*.

Lecithin and Nuclein originate from albumen, fat and a phosphate, in consequence of a transposition of the molecules.

Whatever is found in the tissues besides the above named organic and inorganic building materials is a product of retrograde cell metamorphosis and the degeneration of the albumen: substances which must be eliminated by the activity of the cells. To the products of retrograde cell metamorphosis belong, as already stated, Kreatin, Kreatinin, etc. To the products of the degeneration of albumen belong Tyrosin, Leucin, etc.

The albuminoids and fats are reparation substances and fountains of force.

Oxygen, carbo-hydrates and glue (not to be confounded with glutinous material), are all sources of force. The inorganic salts are reparation substances and regulators of functions. Equalization of functional disturbances is synonymous with the renewal of health. This purpose is only reached biochemically and through the inorganic salts.

The hope of Dr. Ring and his associates to cure diseases by means of Tyrosin, Keratin, Kreatin, etc., rests upon a fallacy, and which disappears when physiologically illustrated.

Every inorganic salt contained in the blood, has, in the walls of the capillaries special passage ways, grace to this arrangement every tissue receives only its requisite mineral salt. The connective tissue, *silicea*, the mucous tissue, *Natr. Mur.*, etc., without this arrangement there would be such a confusion of molecular movements in the intercellular fluids that the building up of new cells would be impossible. In healthy cells and in their intercellular fluids, the salts are found to be in such a favorable local relation to each other, that they are unable to influence each other in a purposeless manner. Without such a favorable relationship contrary transpositions would occur; as when one dissolves *Natr. Mur.* and *Kali phos.* in a fluid, there is formed in consequence of a transposition *Kali Mur.* and *Natr. phos.*

Such processes must be borne in mind by those who give two biochemic remedies at the *same time*.

When the two mentioned salts in ponderable quantities become dissolved in a fluid, the transposition is only a partial

one, but when minimal doses come in contact with one another in a relatively large quantity of fluid, the transposition can possibly be a complete one.

The special therapeutic part of this edition is much the same as the preceding edition. The following, however, are new:

Natr. Phos.—Rheumatic pains in the joints with profuse sour smelling sweat. Acute Gout (after *Ferr. Phos.*), Chronic Gout and chronic articular Rheumatism, Gravel.

Natr. Mur.—Falling out of hair and dandruff, inflammation of the uvula.

Perhaps *Kali Sulph.* and *Calc Sulph.* are remedies in diabetes.

OPHTHALMOLOGY AND OTOTOLOGY.

DEPARTMENT CONDUCTED BY H. C. FRENCH, M. D.

A CASE OF GLAUCOMA, FULMINANS WITH IRIDECTOMY.

By H. C. FRENCH, M. D.

[Read before the California Homœopathic State Medical Society, 1888.]

On April 26th, 1888, was called to see Mrs. S., a lady of 58, with large blue eyes and sanguine temperament. She had been suffering intense pain in the left eye and entire orbital region and temple of the same side, for 36 hours just preceding my visit. The ball was almost stony hard, iris dilated to a narrow band, cornea anaesthetic, the lens semi-cataractous, more markedly in its temporal half, and vision was absolutely nil, so that the presence of a bright light could not be distinguished from total darkness. Of course, there was no reflex, and the paramount symptom was the extreme tension. The right eye revealed no change, either in appearance or function, and was free from pain or uneasiness. Being too late to operate that day, an appointment was made for the following afternoon. The case held out no promise of functional restoration, and the patient was so informed.

The operation was performed under the influence of cocaine, in the presence of members of our senior class, with Dr. E. R. Ballard as assistant. The anterior chamber was almost obliterated by the forward pressure of the lens and iris, rendering the operation both difficult and dangerous. But for the great chemosis of the lids and bulbar conjunctiva, we would have chosen the narrow Von Graefe knife as safer, but the narrowing of the palpebral aperture necessitated the use of the bent keratome. The iridectomy was made well back to the ciliary bodies and wide in extent, and was followed by free hemorrhage, filling completely the interior chamber. Perfect relief from pain did not follow immediately, but there was a gradual amelioration of suffering up to the fifth day, after which little pain was experienced. *Rhus tox.*, *spigelia*, and *lachesis* were the internal remedies employed, and a one-per-cent solution of salycilate of eserine was instilled into the eye every two or three hours, with no apparent effect up to the 5th day after the operation, when the narrow band of iris began slowly to widen. No change in function was noticeable until May 5th, 9 days after the operation, when she discerned flashes of light, and the day following could tell when the lamp was brought in and so on up to the 8th, when she could see the attendant's hat. The pupillary space has narrowed down almost to normal, and the hemorrhagic products are rapidly clearing up, but the most marked change is in the tension, which is now slightly greater than normal.

Aetiology: About four months previous to the attack, while playing, her boy struck her with a spool over the closed lid of the afterwards glaucomatous eye. This was doubtless a predisposing cause, mental anxiety, and excessive use of the eye acting as subsequent excitants. Our most sanguine hope in the case was to save the sightless globe, and protect the good eye, and the result emphasizes the solemn importance of the prompt detection of glaucoma, and the immediate employment of Von Graefe's matchless operation.

WHILE the ophthalmological report at the State medical Society compared favorably with that of the other bureaux,

it was not such as the importance of the subject demands. The conductor of this department read two short papers, reporting cases, one on Glaucoma and one on Retinitis Albumenurica.

Dr. Simpson inquired if the frequency of asthenopia in the young was general amongst his colleagues or merely a temporary coincidence in his own practice.

Drs. Green and French reported similar experience, though in minor degree.

Dr. Green spoke of Onosmodium as having a specific influence in these cases.

Colleges, Hospitals and Societies.

The twelfth annual meeting of the California State Homœopathic Medical Society convened at the Hahnemann Hospital College, on Wednesday, May 9th, 1888, at 8 P. M.

A large number of members and visitors were present. The President, Dr. Palmer, occupied the chair, and called the meeting to order at 8:30 P. M.

The censors reported favorably upon the names of the following physicians, and they were elected to membership.

Dr. C. Scott, Menlo Park; Dr. G. Fichtner, San Francisco; Dr. Florence Saltonstall, of San Francisco; Dr. E. H. Mattner, San Francisco; Dr. G. H. Jenks, San Francisco; Dr. A. D. Fouchy, San Francisco; Dr. Minnie C. F. Love, San Francisco. The entire evening session was devoted to the consideration and discussion of the proposed amendments and changes in the Constitution and By-Laws, the most important of which was that essayists be limited to twenty minutes, and the President to appoint merely the Chairmen of Bureaux, and these their own committees.

After the amended Constitution and By-Laws were adopted, an invitation was extended to the society to visit Fabiola Hospital, and one from the Hahnemann Hospital Aid Association, to visit the San Francisco Homœopathic Hospital, 312 Page Street, where lunch would be served at 1 o'clock Thursday. Both invitations were accepted.

The President then delivered his annual address, after which the society adjourned.

MORNING SESSION—THURSDAY MAY 10TH.

The President called the meeting to order at 10:15 A. M. Nomination and election of officers resulted viz:

President: S. Powell Burdick, M. D., of Oakland.

First Vice-President: Jno. J. Miller, M. D., of San Jose.

Second Vice-President: Laura A. Ballard, M. D., of San Francisco.

Secretary: A. C. Peterson, M. D., of San Francisco.

Treasurer: W. A. Dewey, M. D., of San Francisco.

Censors: Drs. Samuel Lilienthal, C. L. Tisdale, H. L. Bradley, G. H. Jenks, W. E. Ledyard.

Directors: Drs. J. N. Eckel, J. A. Albertson, L. H. Bradley, Wm. Boericke and C. B. Currier.

Board of Examiners: Drs. R. H. Curtis, Wm. Boericke, J. W. Ward, G. E. Davis, H. C. French, Sidney Worth, A. C. Peterson.

The Treasurer reported a balance on hand of \$57.70.

The Secretary of the Board of Examiners, Dr. Wm. Boericke, reported sixty-one licenses granted and four refused, since May, 1887, and balance on hand of \$286.95.

Under the head of Scientific Committees, G. H. Martin, M. D., read a paper entitled "Electricity in Medicine," and defined the sphere of usefulness of this agent, viz: A diagnostician in obscure nervous diseases; in paralysis to stimulate action of muscles; some cases of spinal irritation; uterine displacements; sub-involution; extra uterine pregnancies; destruction of morbid growths by electrolysis.

B. F. Mertzmann, M. D., presented a paper entitled, "Why Lacerations of the Cervix are so frequent."

Dr. De Derky in discussing the paper, claimed that most lacerations occur from meddlesome midwifery, and favored taking plenty of time for nature to assert its power.

Drs. S. Lilienthal and Burdick attacked the position of Dr. De Derky, and condemned waiting, as the strength of the patient is exhausted and grave results apt to ensue.

W. E. Ledyard, M. D., reported cases from practice cured by high potencies. (Swan.)

Dr. Burdick here demonstrated that Swan high potencies were fallacious, the millionth being just about the eighth.

The Society then adjourned and partook of a generous lunch at the hospital, 312 Page street.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

C. L. Tisdale, M. D., read a paper entitled "Anal and Rectal Fissure," which described the various kinds of fissures, their causes, remote and recent, with different modes of treatment, together with the author's own method of procedure.

Dr. Miller asked in case of hemorrhoids and fissure if Dr. Tisdale operated on both at the same time?

Dr. Tisdale replied that he cures hemorrhoids first, and that the fissures cannot be cured until hemorrhoids are first done away with.

J. J. Miller, M. D., read a paper entitled "A Few Desultory remarks on Surgery in General, and Conservative Surgery in Particular," an excellent review of the wonderful advance of surgery within a few years past, and the opening up of what have for centuries past been considered sealed volumes.

Dr. De Derky deprecated the too free use of the knife, and characterized some surgeons as butchers, always ready to cut and slash for their own glorification.

Dr. S. Lilienthal criticised Dr. De Derkey's remarks on "butchers," and cited a case of epileptic spasms cured by trephining after years of fruitless medication.

H. C. French, M. D., presented papers entitled "Retinitis Albuminurica" and "Glaucoma Fulminans."

Dr. Simpson spoke of the unusual number of cases of neuro-retinitis and thinks errors of refraction the cause and urged the necessity of testing refraction in every case.

Dr. Green attributes the frequent asthenopia and hyperaesthesia of the retina in this State to the glare from bare brown earth in summer.

Dr. Burdick attributes many eye troubles in this sunny country, from glare of white painted houses and concrete sidewalks.

Samuel Lilienthal, M. D., read a paper entitled "Imperfections of Homœopathic Materia Medica," and urged the

necessity of new and thorough provings, whereby we may differentiate the true and false drug symptoms, but we could not, at present, afford to do away with any symptoms in the materia medica.

Dr. Burdick had made provings of many remedies, and thinks $\frac{2}{3}$ of symptoms recorded in our books are unreliable. He made the first proving of *Yucca Filimentosa* and noted its powerful action on the bowels and cured many cases of dysentery, to which this remedy corresponded, and urged the Society to prove certain drugs.

Dr. Boericke was elected delegate to American Institute.

Dr. E. H. Hurd of Rochester, N. Y., Dr. A. von der Lühé of Brooklyn, N. Y., and Dr. S. Powell Burdick of Oakland, Cal., were delegates of the Homœopathic Medical Society of New York, elected at the Annual Meeting of that Society, convened in Albany, February, 1888.

Scientific Bureaux being reopened, A. B. Bishop, M. D., read a paper entitled "Uterine Displacements."

Drs. S. Lilienthal, Dewey, Boericke, Ward, Peterson and Martin were elected to represent the California State Homœopathic Medical Society in the Intercollegiate Committee of the American Institute.

Dr. Lilienthal moved a vote of thanks to the ladies of the Hahnemann Hospital for their sumptuous lunch, which was unanimously carried.

Drs. Dewey and Boericke conducted Dr. Burdick the incoming president to the chair. Dr. Burdick greeted the Society cordially and asked the co-operation of every member of the Society to aid in bringing about good will and harmony; to endeavor to advance the interests of the Society and thus the interests of humanity.

After tendering a vote of thanks to Dr. Palmer, the retiring President, the Society adjourned.

A. C. PETERSON, M. D., Secretary.

OHIO STATE HOMŒOPATHIC SOCIETY.

The Homœopathic Medical Society, of Ohio, met at Delaware, Ohio, May 8th and 9th. A good and enthusiastic

meeting; average attendance seventy-five. The following officers were elected: C. E. Walton, M. D., President; C. L. Cleveland, M. D., First Vice-President; Frances J. Derby, M. D., Second Vice-President; Frank Kraft, M. D., Secretary; C. D. Crank, M. D., Assistant Secretary; H. Pomeroy, M. D., Treasurer; H. E. Beebe, M. D., Chairman Board of Censors. Next annual meeting at Cincinnati, Ohio, second Tuesday of May, 1889.

NEW LICENTIATES.

The following have been granted licenses to practice by the Homœopathic Board since our last issue:

O. W. Green, Los Angeles, Hahnemann Medical College, Chicago.....	1886
M. S. Putnam, Santa Barbara, Woman's Medical College, New York... ..	1884
J. S. Gleason, South Riverside, State University, Iowa.....	1883
Minnie C. F. Love, San Francisco, Howard University Med. Department.	1887
S. F. Davis, Pomona, State University, Iowa.....	1879
Florence N. Saltonstall, San Francisco, Hahnemann Hos. Col., S. F.....	1887
Willis P. Polhemus, San Diego, University of Michigan	1881
M. L. Hurlbert, Pasadena, Hahnemann Medical College, Chicago.....	1872

OAKLAND HOMŒOPATHIC HOSPITAL.

On Saturday, April 29th, a large crowd assembled at the New Fabiola Hospital building, corner of Moss Avenue and Broadway, Oakland, to witness the dedication of that building. The exercises consisted in addresses by Mayor Pierce, and several prominent clergymen of that city, after which the guests were invited to inspect the buildings and grounds. The building is large, roomy, of fine architectural effect, and cost about \$18,000. The site was donated by the late Anthony Chabot, and Frederic Delger started the building fund with \$5,000, the balance was raised by the homœopathic ladies of Oakland.

The main building is 100x60 feet, with a large wing 60x120 feet, extending to the rear. It is two and one-half stories in height, and the inside is commodiously arranged with large wards, library, reception room, operating room, bath, private apartments, etc. A tower rises on the west and a turret on

the east, while in the sloping roof are dormer windows. With this new hospital in Oakland, and another new one projected in this city, the Pacific Coast will no longer be behind the age.

ALLOPATHIC MEDICAL SOCIETY.

At the recent meeting of the California State Medical Society (Allopathic) quite an interesting report was made by the Committee on Mental Diseases.

Dr. Robertson, of the Napa Asylum, did not believe in medical and mechanical restraint to patients. By medical restraint he meant the use of opium, chloral hydrate and that class of drugs. He said that there was not a straight jacket in the Napa Asylum, although there were fifteen hundred patients.

Dr. Mays, of the Stockton Asylum, showed that insanity was no more common in California than elsewhere. Our ratio being one to four hundred and forty, while the percentage in New York, is one to three hundred and fifty; in Massachusetts, one to three hundred and sixty.

CLINICAL ITEMS.

Natrum. Phos. has few equals for ulcerations of the buccal mucous membrane. "Canker sores" of the lips and cheeks yield to this remedy in the 3x or 6x attenuation, where Borax, Antim. crud. Baptisia, Kali Chlor, etc., have failed to cure.—*S. J. Hom.*

Arsenite of Bromine.—Professor J. H. Smith recommends warmly this remedy in cases of diabetes for the removal of sugar from the urine; 5 to 8 drops 3 times daily gives excellent results.—*Era.*

Dioscorea has great burning distress in the stomach, with prickling pains, faintness, also constant heavy pains in the pit of stomach, worse after eating, and which is relieved by copious eructations of gas.

The California Homœopath.

A MONTHLY JOURNAL,

Devoted to the cause of Homœopathy on the Pacific Coast. The only Homœopathic Medical Journal west of the Rocky Mountains.

EDITORS. - - WM. BOERICKE, M. D. and W. A. DEWEY, M. D.

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THE CALIFORNIA HOMOEOPATH, No. 234 Sutter St., San Francisco, Cal.

EDITORIAL.

THE twelfth annual meeting of the State Society was held on the 9th of May. The attendance at the same was not such as could be desired. There are nearly 250 Homœopathic physicians practicing in the State, only a third of whom are members of the State Society, and of those who *are* members, hardly one-half are present. It seems to us that more interest should be taken in our State meetings. There is plenty of material among its members to make an interesting meeting. Let us commence now to prepare for the thirteenth annual meeting that it may surpass in interest all former ones. At least one day of the year should be given up to the furtherance of our system of medicine when our old school brethren give up three for theirs.

THE College opened to a fine class on the 1st of May, the Dean giving the opening lecture. At present everything is running smoothly, and we hear the students are getting down to solid work.

THE College museum should be worked up; some interesting specimens are already to be seen there, among which is a skull presented by Dr. Henderson, of Oregon, which is a beautiful illustration of how the top of the head can be "blown off." Those who have interesting specimens cannot do better than to forward them to the College museum.

NOTICE.—Those of our readers who do not wish to keep the *April* number, will confer a favor by sending us the same, as we are entirely out of that number.

Personal Notes, Locations, Etc.

DR. P. K. GUILD, of Santa Barbara, is spending a few weeks in our genial climate, and, we learn, is steadily improving in health.


DR. S. POWELL BURDICK is the new President of the State Society, which fact gives much promise of a most interesting meeting next year.

DR. MINNIE C. F. LOVE, recently from Washington, D. C., has located in San Francisco, at 1907 Pacific Avenue, where she will devote herself to gynæcology and obstetrics.

TWINS.—Our editor (the one whose specialty is children of course) recently became the happy father of twin girls. Practice in his specialty, which has been rather dull of late, will now have a boom.

AMONG the "country members" at the recent meeting of the State Society, the San Jose Homœopathists were well represented by Drs. SIMPSON, MILLER and BISHOP. Excellent reports were made by each.

DR. J. N. ECKEL, who recently met with a serious accident to his knee, is again able to be out. He is at present spending a few weeks in San Luis Obispo county, where we hope he will regain the strength lost by so long a confinement, and upon his return be able to attend to his large practice as of old.



NEW PUBLICATIONS.

DR. FLORENCE SALTONSTALL has returned from her eastern visit full of enthusiasm and noble ambition, and has opened an office at the corner of Sutter and Polk streets. We bespeak a brilliant future for the doctor.

PROF. MARTIN, formerly of Honolulu, has permanently located in San Francisco, at 921½ Geary street. Office hours from 2 to 4 P. M. An interesting paper read before the State Society by him appears in our present number.

PROF. T. J. KENT, the brilliant teacher of Materia Medica, has been called to the Hahnemann Medical College, of Philadelphia, to fill the chair of Homœopathic, Materia Medica and Therapeutics in that venerable institution. No more worthy successor to Farrington could have been chosen, and we congratulate both the college and the Professor on the important change.

THE editors of this journal, among others, participated in the lunch given to the members of the State Society by the ladies of the Hahnemann Hospital Aid Association. If the spread given was a sample of the diet list, we would not object to being a chronic resident of the Hospital. The ladies are enthusiastic and doing a good work for the cause, and deserve every encouragement.

BOOK REVIEWS.

Salient (prominent) Materia Medica and Therapeutics. By C. L. CLEVELAND, A. M., M. D.; Lecture on Materia Medica in the Homœopathic Hospital College, Cleveland, Ohio. Member of the American Institute of Homœopathy and of the Permanent Bureau of Materia Medica, Ohio State Society: Hahnemann Publishing House. 1888.

Blessed be the name of Dr. Cleveland for ever and ever, for now Homœopathic Therapeutics are ground down to a very small compass, and the lazy drones of our schools, and there are only too many of them, can proudly excuse themselves for their ease as a lecturer on Materia Medica has shown them the way to do it, though it is not exactly according to the teaching of Father Hahnemann. But what do we to-day care for the notions of the good old man! We live in a lively age of progress and everything must be done rapidly, though it may not be always well done.

More in sorrow than in anger I put the book aside; an honest prescriber can have no use for such a condensation. Take the very first remedy and can anyone say when to prescribe Acetic Acid, or later, page 14, Aconite for croup? We ask pathologically what croup? and homœopathically what indications? Cleveland fails to answer both questions, and their routine treatment is encouraged. It may be a satisfactory work to some physicians, especially to those who glory in the use of palliatives. But certainly Dr. Cleveland felt himself that it is neither a Homœopathic Materia Medica nor Homœopathic Therapeutics in its strict sense, and therefore wisely left that important word out, for which omission he has our hearty thanks.

AN OLD HAHNEMANNIAN.

Repertory of Symptoms of the Head. By C. NEIDHARD, M. D., Philadelphia: Hahnemann Publishing House. 1888.

Neidhard is acknowledged authority, and anything coming from such a source can be considered reliable, and it is therefore rather presumptuous to find fault with it; but that is rather the fault of all repertory work, that it takes too much time to look up the case in hand, when time is money. For a long time I could not make out what the numbers placed before each remedy referred to, and even now I am in doubt what the numbers put after a symptom mean. It is true, page 53, the author says that they refer to different kinds of pain, but even when comparing one with the other, we often failed to observe the concordance. What we want in a future edition is to see them more clearly elucidated; the treatise would thus gain in practical value, and he who seeks can then find more easily what he needs. Despite all progress, a reliable *Materia Medica pura* and a trustworthy repertory are yet *pia desiderata*, but let us be thankful for what we received and the younger generation may be more successful in the attempts where the old guard failed. Never mind imperfections. "Rome was not built in a day." S. L.

Carlsbad, its Springs, their Physiological Action and Indications. By THEODORE KAFKA, Consulting Physician at Carlsbad.

Dr. Kafka has published a valuable resume of all that is necessary to be known about the various springs of Carlsbad, giving in a small compass its uses and abuses.

Schussler's Abgekürzte Therapie. Fifteenth edition. March, 1888. (See selections.)

Disarticulation of the Right Half of the Lower Jaw for Enchondroma. W. D. HAMILTON, M. D. Columbus, Ohio.

Odium Medicum. Being a reprint of the recent discussion in the *London Times*. To those who are interested in the above discussion and the favorable ventilation of Homœopathy in conservative England, it is a valuable pamphlet.

One Hundred and Ten Laparotomies for Removal of the Uterine Appendages. W. GILL WYLIE, M. D., New York, 1888

Diseases of Biliary and Urinary Organs and Fat Cures. THEODORE KAFKA, Carlsbad, 1888.

A Years' Work in Abdominal Surgery. W. GILL WYLIE, M. D., New York.

Proceedings of the State Sanitary Convention held at Philadelphia. Harrisburg. 1888.

POPULAR DEPARTMENT.

THE MANAGEMENT AND CARE OF CHILDREN.

BY WILLIAM BOERICKE, M. D.

V.

The success of cow's milk, either used alone or as an adjunct to prepared infants' foods, depends, of course, upon its quality and upon the methods of keeping it until it is ready for use.

It must be *unadulterated, pure milk*, and should be slightly alkaline, but sometimes it is slightly acid, in which case it is very apt to disagree with children. It is advisable to test the reaction by means of a strip of litmus paper, obtainable in every drug store. *Good milk will change red litmus paper to blue* after some minutes' contact. If it changes blue litmus paper to red, the milk is acid and is not suitable to a young child.

The milk should be kept in a pitcher or bottle absolutely clean, and *away from all odors*, because milk very readily absorbs impurities of all sorts and thus becomes contaminated. Keep it well covered *outside the window* on a shelf, and prepare no more at one time than is needed for one feeding. Never keep the milk in the sick room or nursery. In hot weather it may be best to boil the milk and then allow it to cool; it will then keep much longer. But never use any substance like borax or bicarb. of soda, or Salicylic acid to "sweeten" the milk; should it have become tainted in any way; such procedure is the most reprehensible and hurtful to the youthful organism.

After each feeding, baby's mouth ought to be wiped out with a very soft cloth moistened in warm water, and in case it takes the breast, the nipples should be similarly treated before and after each nursing.

It may be put down as a general rule that most of the prepared infants' foods in the market lack fat, a very essential element for baby's nutrition. Fortunately they are not in-

tended as *substitutes* for milk, but are almost all prepared *with* proportion of milk. In this way the milk makes up to an extent the deficiency in fat. It is well to supplement these infants' foods when they must be employed with *inunctions of oil*, especially when the child seems ill-nourished. Such inunction with olive oil may be made daily at bed-time, or even twice a day in case of wasting, all over the child's body. It will not alone be an additional source of nourishment, but frequently correct nervous restlessness as well.

Still another necessary article of diet as an adjunct to all others is *water*—have it boiled and cooled before using it. It is too apt to be forgotten as a daily need for baby's comfort, for babies do get thirsty and crave for pure, fresh water. Offer it several times during the day and you will see that it is greedily taken when the ordinary nourishment is perhaps refused. Bottle-fed babies are apt to be *overfed*, and the substitution of water rather than the prepared food once in a while will not only correct troubles arising from over-feeding, but equally satisfy the body. Sometimes the addition of a teaspoonful of sugar and milk adds to its nutritive value.

Again, do not forget as soon as a few teeth have appeared, to give the child a hard *crust of bread* to chew. It is one of the best things and should never be excluded, no matter what food is determined upon. It will aid in developing the jaw and teeth, matters of greater importance at the early age than brain development.

In looking over the whole subject of infant feeding, we find that *regularity* in offering the food is the thing to be aimed at. And when we must find a substitute for nature's provision, let it be pure, simple and easily prepared. And never forget that *absolute cleanliness* is the one condition requisite for success. When baby does not thrive before discarding your food, see to it that every step in its preparation is done perfectly, and not until you are satisfied on this score, change the food for another.

Sarsaparilla 3x is to be remembered in eruptions, extending in circular form, not forming crusts.